AMENDMENT

Please amend the above captioned application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as shown in Attachment "A".

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 16 as shown in Attachment "B".

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and further examination in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

In the outstanding Office Action claims 1, 3, 6, 8-11, 13, 16, and 18-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,317,729 to Mukherjee et al.; and claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 12, 14, 15 and 17 were objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim.

Applicant would initially like to draw the Examiner's attention that certain typographical modifications of a clerical nature were effected in the counterpart EP application (and proposed by the EP Examiner). Applicants have amended the instant specification in Attachment "A" consistent therewith to correct the

same typographical errors. Support for the amendments is found throughout the originally filed specification, claims and drawings.

Independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 have been amended to clarify the invention and thereby further differentiate over the cited prior art; claims 8 and 9 have been amended to clarify that the claimed "dimension" is a --text-- dimension and to correct punctuation; and claim 13 has been amended to correct an error of antecedent basis.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the above amendments introduce no new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 132.

Claims Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 6, 8-11, 13, 16, and 18-20 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,317,729 to Mukherjee et al.

RESPONSE

In Section 3 of the Notification, the Examiner contends that claim 1, 3, 6, 8-11, 13, 16, 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,317,729.

Before turning to the Examiner's rejections on the merits, Applicants would like to clarify that the invention of the cited `729 patent is directed to a version control software which, "inserts and extracts sequence numbers that are automatically generated for both historical preservation, previous engineering change information and efficient retrieval of the currently effective designs" (see e.g., abstract, lines 7 and 13-17).

In accordance with the `729 patent, "all versions of object instances pertaining to each engineering change are contained in database tables" (column 5, lines 44-46). The version control nature of the invention according to the `729 patent is also reflected e.g., in column 9, lines 40 on onward, specifying that it is possible to review all updates made by a particular engineering change". In simple words, this allows for a logging of engineering changes, and facilitating extraction of the information to present a given change of interest. This is generally how a version control utility operates.

The `729 patent is confined to the specific domain of engineering, and is of static nature, e.g., shows groups of versioned objects, i.e. item-related data objects and material-related data objects (see column 5, lines 7 and 9).

In contrast, the presently claimed invention does not aim at presenting version control, but rather is directed to assigning values of desired dimension or dimensions to selected text segment or segments. Whereas in version control, a new version necessarily entails a change in the text compared to a previous version, in accordance with certain embodiments of the invention, a text segment is selected from a given text (without necessarily imposing a text update in contrast to version control), and for the specified selected text segment, a given dimension is selected, e.g., a time dimension, and the value is assigned thereto. For example, for a given text segment, a time dimension is selected and a given date value is assigned, see e.g., the example with reference to table 1 and 2 in pages 8 and 9 of the specification.

Note that in version control, the changes in the text are tracked, and in the retrieval phase, what is of interest is what is the relevant text version. There is a strong correlation between

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the time of modification and the relevance of the version. For example, if a given text was edited at a certain time (hereinafter first version), and later on additional text was added, giving rise to a second version, then when the updated version is of interest, the second (later) version would be retrieved and not the original one.

In clear contrast, there is not necessarily such correspondence in certain embodiments of the presently claimed invention. Thus, by way of a non-limiting example, consider a text that is edited at date 1; later, a given text segment is added to the original text (at a later date 2). Now the later added text may have a time dimension with a value (i.e., dates), which is earlier than the dimension value of the original text, notwithstanding that the text was added later. For a better understanding, consider a non-limiting example that concerns the language of the law. Let us assume that certain language of law (say law of Tort) is converted to an electronic form (the date of generation of the electronic text is date 1). The law is assigned with a dimension value indicative of the date from which the law is in force (hereinafter: validity date 1). Let us now assume that it is desired to incorporate also the previous version of the law of Tort (before it was modified to the current version). Note incidentally that the language of the law as was in force before the amendment can be of interest, e.g., for lawsuits which are based on acts that occurred when the previous version of the law was in force.

Now, the additional text (that refers to the previous version of the law of Tort) is incorporated in the original text in a later date (i.e. date 2, later than date 1), however, the dimension value is a date range (hereinafter validity date 2), which precedes the validity date 1. In other words, the more updated version (edited at date 2) is less updated insofar as "dates in which the law is in

force" is concerned. Thus, by this example, insofar as versions are concerned, the updated version is the one that was edited on Date 2. However, when considering the use of dimensions of the invention, the _later_ edited version is less updated as it refers to earlier date when the law was in force.

To sum up, there follows a non-limiting list of distinctions between the cited prior art and various embodiments of the invention.

i)   Version control always concerns an update of text compared to the previous version, (i.e., adding, modifying or deleting text). In contrast in accordance with the invention, text segments do not necessarily require modifications of the original text, and accordingly the dimension value(s) can apply to text segment(s) of the original texts.

ii) Whereas in version control there is always a correspondence between the time of editing the updated text and its relevance insofar as retrieval is concerned (i.e., later edited text would be considered a later version), such a correspondence does not necessarily exist in the embodiments of the invention which concern the time dimension, and a fortiori, not in the embodiments that use other dimensions. Thus, if a selected dimension is, for example, "spokesman" (say, assigning a name or spokesman to a given text segment and a different spokesman's name to another text segment, etc.,), this has nothing to do whatsoever with version control of the kind disclosed in the `729 patent.

iii) In accordance with the invention, it is possible to

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assign a few different dimension values to the same text segment, and/or the same dimension value to different text segments, etc.

Bearing all this in mind, attention is drawn to Section 3 of the Office Action, where the Examiner maintains that selecting a text segment corresponds to an engineering change affected item file.

Applicants respectively traverse. Thus, a change always requires *delete, add* or *modify* data, whereas the selection of text segment may apply to existing text.

The Examiner further maintains that assigning a value of a text dimension to said text segment, reads on item-related data, and refers to column 5, line 7- 41.

Item-related data as can be understood from the description of Fig. 2 in the cited paragraph, refers to versioned data types, (column 5, line 13) i.e. enumerating a list of pre-defined items, and more specifically, a list of 8 specific items which can be versioned in respect of the item-related data file 22, and an additional 3 items related to material-related data file, 24 - all as may be recalled in the context of versions.

Reverting to the Examiner's contention, not only the selection of text segment is well distinguished from engineering changes in the context of version control (as discussed above), but also assigning dimension values (e.g., dates of validity, spokesman name, etc.) to text segment(s) has nothing to do with item related data that are somehow limited to
engineering changes.

Note incidentally that claim 1 recites <u>a step</u> (in a data flow) of assigning a value of text dimension, whereas in the cited paragraph, it is explicitly mentioned that a <u>data relationship</u> rather than <u>data flow</u> is illustrated (see column 5, line 9,10). Applicants maintain that "result" cannot correspond to "step" in an objection under Section 102. .

In addition, the repetition step of selecting a text segment(s) and assigning dimension(s) and value(s) (without necessarily imposing changes on the original text), is not anticipated in the version control technique of the `729 patent, in contrast to the Examiner's contention in section 3 of the Office Action.

In light of the foregoing discussion, Applicants believe that the rejection of claim 1 under 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claim 3 is appended to claim 1 and should be regarded as novel over the cited `729 patent, inter alia, for the reason discussed above.

Claim 11 should be regarded as novel over the `729 patent, basically for the same reason as discussed above with reference to claim 1.

Claim 13, appended to claim 11, should be regarded as novel over the cited `729 patent, inter alia, for the reasons discussed with reference to claim 11.

Turning to the contention with respect to claim 6, Applicants maintain that claim 6 is novel over the cited `729 patent, inter alia, for the reasons that the cited `729 patent is directed to a version control system whereas the invention relates to a

multi-layered text, having text segments with assigned values of text dimensions, all of which not being anticipated by the cited `729 patent (see discussion with reference to Claim 1 above). Moreover, the `729 patent does not disclose the provision of at least one input value or input value range of at least one dimension, and retrieving and displaying text segments having assigned thereto a value that meets the input value or input value range, but rather identifies a specific version of interest of the text ("review all updates made by a particular engineering change" - Col. 9, lines 41-42).

In light of the foregoing discussion, Applicants believe that the rejection of claim 6 under 102(b) should be withdrawn.

Claims 8 to 10 appended to claim 6 should be allowed as novel over the cited `720 patent, inter alia, for the reasons discussed with reference to claim 6.

Claim 16 should be regarded as novel over the `729 patent for the same reasons discussed with reference to claim 6.

Claims 18-20, appended to claim 16, should be regarded as novel over the cited `729 patent inter alia for the reasons discussed with reference to claim 16.

Accordingly, A favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is therefore kindly requested.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 12, 14, 15 and 17 as dependent on a rejected base claim, and indicated that said

claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

RESPONSE

The Examiner's indication of patentable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

Nevertheless, in view of the amendments made herein and the above presented arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that each of independent claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 are now allowable; and therefore dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 12, 14, 15 and 17 are respectfully submitted to now be allowable.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.
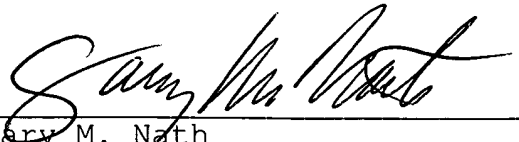
CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 8, 2003

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Attachment "A"
(Amended Specification Paragraphs)

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 8-10, as follows:

A1

There is, accordingly, a need in the art for providing a convenient means for introducing and displaying layers~~(s)~~ of text according to selected dimension or dimensions.

Please amend the paragraph at page 3, lines 4-9, as follows:

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D. Reference Dimension: a variable that defines the source of text ~~that~~ <u>and</u> serves as reference to the text segment under question. Thus, for example, when a given text segment in a patent document originates from a given scientific publication (e.g. a publication from the *IEEE* gazette), the reference dimension that is applied to the text segment in the patent is assigned with the value of the specified scientific publication.

Please amend the paragraphs at page 5, line 24 - page 6, line 8, as follows:

A3

Accordingly, the invention provides for a <u>computer-implemented</u> method of producing a ~~multi-level~~ <u>multi-layer</u> text, comprising

(a) providing a text;

(b) selecting a text segment;

(c) assigning a value or value range of a text dimension to said text segment, wherein a text dimension refers to any desired domain and includes information on one related text layer;

(d) repeating steps (b) and (c) as many times as desired.

The present invention further provides for a system that includes display unit for producing multi-layer text, comprising:

(i) a selector for selecting a text segment in said text;

(ii) an assignor for assigning a value of a text dimension to said text segment, wherein a text dimension refers to any desired domain and includes information on one related text layer; and

(iii) memory for storing the multi-layer text.

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 18 - 23, as follows:

Accordingly, there is provided for use with a multi-layer text of the kind specified, a computer-implemented method for displaying a text of interest, comprising:

(a) providing at least one input value or input value range of at least one text dimension; and

(b) retrieving and displaying text segments having assigned thereto a value that meets said input value or input value range.

Please amend the paragraph at page 7, lines 15-24, as follows:

Attention is first directed to Fig. 1, illustrating a generalized block diagram of a system according to the invention. As shown, the system **(1)** includes a processor **(2)** coupled to memory **(4)** and to display **(6)**. The processor, memory and display may be any of commercially available devices, e.g. a conventional P.C. running <u>an</u> Intel® based processor, and running <u>a</u> Windows® based operating system. This is, of course, an example, and any architecture which provides one or more processor<u>s</u> coupled to at least one display device and to at least one memory, is suitable for the invention. The processor is loaded from the memory with <u>a</u> suitable program and an input text for producing a multi-layer text according to the invention.

Please amend Table II, on pages 9-10, as follows:

Time Dimensions	Dimension Place	Resulting Text
Begin-01.01.75 End-31.12.79	Tel Aviv	Inner city bus fare is two lira
Begin-01.01.75 End-31.12.80	London	Inner city bus fare is half pound
Begin-01.01.80 End-31.12.83	Tel Aviv	Inner city bus fare is one hundred lira
Begin-01.01.81 End-31.12.89	London	Inner city bus fare is two pounds
Begin-01.01.84 End-31.12.84	Tel Aviv	Inner city bus fare is half a shequel
Begin-01.01.85 End-31.12.86	Tel Aviv	Inner city bus fare is one hundred and fifty shequels
Begin-01.01.87 End-31.12.89	Tel Aviv	Inner city bus fare is 1.5 New Shequels
Begin-01.01.90 End-~	Tel Aviv	Inner city bus fare is three New Shequels
Begin ~~01.01.81~~ <u>01.01.90</u> End -~	London	Inner city bus fare is three pounds

TABLE II -

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Please amend the paragraph at page 10, lines 2-10, as follows:

Attention is now directed to Fig. 3 illustrating a flow chart of a generalized sequence of operation for retrieving ~~(31)~~ and displaying **(33)** text of interest in a multi-layer text of the invention. As shown, the multi-layer text of the kind specified enables to retrieve and display a text of interest by, generally, following the steps:

(a) providing at least one input value, or input value range, of at least one dimension; and

(b) retrieving and displaying text segments having assigned thereto~~,~~ each~~,~~ value or value range that meets said input value~~,~~ or input value range.

Please amend the paragraph at page 10, line 14 - page 11, line 3, as follows:

The relevant input values are, of course, *03 10 1981* (time dimension) and *Tel Aviv* or *London* (place dimension). What remains to be done is to retrieve the text segment that corresponds to the specified input values, i.e. ~~three~~ *two* *pound* in London (since *03 10 1981* falls in the range of *01 01 1981 - 31.12.89*) and *one hundred lira* in *Tel-Aviv* (since *03 10* falls in the range of *01 01 1980 - 31 12 1983*).

Please amend the paragraphs at page 11, lines 10-15, as follows:

Thus, if there is a dimension that shouldn't have a value all the time, and it can have more than one value at a given time period, like employment for example (one is not always employed), then each validity period of any value should contain start and termination of validity, for example:

The next sentence is part of a text that has the employment dimension; the values are as follows:

Please amend the paragraphs at page 12, lines 15-19, as follows:

With this example, the idea that a dimension need not necessarily have a valid value at all times is demonstrated.

Those versed in the art will readily appreciate that there are ~~multitude~~ multiple manners of displaying text of interest, and three out of many possible variants are discussed below.

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 1-6, as follows:

1. Define a requested value (value range) dimension of a text segment. If, For example, a dimension of time in an updated law text is sought, the law in force at any requested date X will be displayed. The ~~retreival~~ retrieval program, based on the input

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values, will automatically choose all text segments that

correspond to the criterion of: expiration_date = X, and only the

requested segment(s) will be displayed.

Please amend the paragraphs at page 16, lines 7-13, as follows:

It should be noted that <u>the</u> order of steps recited in the

claims is provided for convenience of explanation only and should

by no means be regarded as binding.

The present invention has been described with a certain

degree of particularity but it should be understood that various

modifications and alterations may be made without departing from

the scope ~~or spirit~~ of the invention as defined by the following

claims:

Attachment "B"
(Pending Claims)

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1. (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method for producing a multi-layer text, comprising

(a) providing <u>(21)</u> a text;

(b) selecting <u>(23)</u> a text segment;

(c) assigning <u>(25) a</u> value of a text dimension to said text segment<u>, wherein a text dimension refers to any desired domain and includes information on one related text layer</u>;

(d) repeating <u>(27, 29)</u> steps (b) and (c) as many times as desired.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said text dimension is selected from the group that includes time, place, spokesperson and reference.

3. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying said multi-layer text, such that different values of a text dimension are displayed in unique manner.

4. (Original) The method according to Claim 3 wherein each one of said values is displayed in a different color.

5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said values are assigned to said text segment using at least one of the following functions: INSERT, END, AUTHOR CORRECTION.

6. (Currently Amended) For use with a multi-layer text, the ~~multi-level~~ <u>multi-layer</u> text having text segments assigned with values of text dimensions<u>, wherein a text dimension refers to any desired domain and includes information on one related text layer</u>; a <u>computer-implemented</u> method for displaying a text of interest, comprising:

(a) providing <u>(31)</u> at least one input value, or input value range, of at least one <u>text</u> dimension; and

(b) retrieving and displaying <u>(33)</u> text segments having assigned thereto~~,~~ <u>a</u> value that meets said input value~~,~~ or input value range.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said text dimension is selected from the group that includes time, place, spokesperson and reference.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6. wherein said retrieval includes displaying a requested value~~,~~ or value range of a <u>text</u> dimension of a text segment.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein said

retrieval includes displaying text changes according <u>to</u> different values of the same <u>text</u> dimension.

10. (Original). The method of Claim 6, wherein said retrieval includes a complete visual display.

11. (Currently Amended) A system that includes <u>a</u> display unit for producing multi-layer text, comprising:

(i) <u>a</u> selector for selecting a text segment in said text;

(ii) <u>an</u> assignor for assigning a value of a <u>text</u> dimension to said text segment<u>, wherein a text dimension refers to any desired domain and includes information on one related text layer</u>; and

(iii) <u>a</u> memory for storing the multi-layer text<u>.</u>

12. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said text dimension is selected from the group that includes time, place, spokesperson, reference.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 11, wherein said display ~~device~~ <u>unit</u> is capable of displaying said multi-layer text, such that different values of a text dimension are displayed in a unique manner.

14. (Original) The system according to Claim 13, wherein

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each one of said values is displayed in a different color.

15. (Original) The system of Claim 11, wherein said values are assigned to said text segment using at least one of the following functions: INSERT, END, AUTHOR CORRECTION.

16. (Currently Amended) For use with a multi-layer text having text segments assigned with values of text dimensions wherein a text dimension refers to any desired domain and includes information on one related text layer, a system for displaying a text of interest, comprising:

i. a receiver for receiving at least one input value or input value range of at least one text dimension; and

ii. a retriever for retrieving and displaying text segments having assigned thereto, a value that meets said input value, or input value range.

17. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said text dimension is selected from the group that includes time, place, spokesperson and reference.

18. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said retrieval includes displaying a requested value, or value range of a dimension of a text segment.

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19. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said retrieval includes displaying text changes according different values of the same dimension.

20. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said retrieval includes a complete visual display.

21. (Original) A memory medium containing a file that includes a multi-layer text generated according to the method of Claim 1.